IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraphs 4, 7, 18, 23, 25 and 26 as follows:

Referring to FIG. 1, a magnetic recording/reading apparatus comprises a main deck 10 on which a head drum 11 is rotatably disposed, a main sliding member 13 reciprocably disposed on the main deck 10 to slide in the direction A, a sub-deck 20 reciprocably disposed on the main deck 10 to slide in the direction B, and reel tables 15 on which two tape reels of a cassette tape seated on the sub-deck 20 are seated, with one of the reel tables 15 being driven to drive one of the tape reels. The magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus further comprises a pair of pole base [[unit]] units 16 and 17 for moving and supporting a tape to be wound around the head drum 11 when the sub-deck 20 is loaded, and a tape guiding apparatus for guiding the movement of the loaded tape.

[0007] The pivoting lever 31 pivots by being pushed by the sub-deck 20 when a tape is being loaded and accordingly, the pinch-roller 33 comes into contact with the capstan 18. After the sub-dick sub-deck 20 is loaded, the main sliding member 13 moves, thereby pushing the lower end of the pressing lever 35 to the left. The pressing lever 35 is then rotated clockwise and the extension spring 37 is extended. The pinch-roller 33 is brought into close contact with the capstan 18 by the tension of the extension spring 37.

[0018] FIG. 2 is a plan view schematically showing a magnetic recording/reading apparatus having a pinch-roller unit according to an embodiment of the present invention. Referring to the drawing, a head drum 41 is rotatably disposed on the main deck 40. The main deck 40 has a sliding member 43 disposed to reciprocate in the direction A, and a sub-deck 50 disposed to reciprocate in the direction B. The sub-deck 50 has a pair of reel tables 51 disposed on both sides on which the tape reels of the cassette are to be seated. In addition, the main deck 40 has a pair of pole base units 45 disposed for guiding the

tape from the cassette to be wound around a head drum 41 when the sub-deck 50 is in the loaded position. Each pole base unit 45 is driven by a loading system 48 that is driven by the power supplied from a driving motor 47 disposed on the main deck 40. The loading system 48 comprises a plurality of gears. The sub-deck 50 becomes reciprocatable in the direction B also by the driving motor 47. Since loading system 48 of the sub-deck 50 is well-known to those in the art, its description will be omitted.

[0023] The torsion spring 75 is coaxially disposed on the pivoting lever 71 to be wound around the pivoting shaft. Both ends of the torsion spring 75 are supported by the protrusions 71a and 71b, and are thereby prevented from being released. When the subdeck 50 is loaded, the torsion spring 75 is stressed by being pushed by the sliding member 43, thereby pressing the pivoting lever 71 towards the capstan 63. Accordingly, the pinch roller 73 can be maintained in close contact with the capstan 63 as shown in FIG. 3. Also, because the torsion spring 75 is disposed on the pivoting lever 71 for pressing the pivoting lever 71, a plurality of parts used in a conventional pinch roller unit becomes unnecessary. Therefore, the cost and the number of assembling processes can be reduced, thereby improving the productivity.

[0025] When the cassette is seated in the sub-deck 50 as shown in FIG. 2, the sub-deck 50 moves in the direction B. The power generated by the driving motor 47 moves the sub-deck 50 towards the head drum 41. The sub-deck 50 being loaded comes in contact with a protrusion 71c on the pivoting lever 71 and pushes the pivoting lever 71. Since the sub-deck 50 moves towards the head drum 41, it can also be referred to as a movable member. As described above, the sub-deck (movable member) 50 can be moved in both a loading and an unloading direction. As shown in FIG. 3, when the sub-deck 50 is completely loaded, the pinch roller 73 comes in contact with the capstan 63 as the pivoting lever 71 is pivoted. In that state, the sliding member 43 moves to the left direction in the direction A, and thus contacts and pushes an end of the torsion spring 75.

Appl. No. 10/609,472

Amdt. Dated November 23, 2004

Reply to Office Action of August 23, 2004

Then, the torsion spring 75 is stressed and the torsion is transferred to the pivoting lever 71. Accordingly, the pinch roller 73 maintains its close contact with the capstan 63, thereby smoothly guiding the tape being conveyed through between the pinch roller 73 and the capstan 63.

[0026] As can be appreciated from the description of the pinch roller unit of a magnetic recording/reading apparatus set forth above, the structure in which a single torsion spring is provided to press a pivoting lever that supports a pinch roller can reduce the number of parts significantly when compared to the conventional pinch roller unit. As a result, costs can be reduced and the structure can be simplified. Moreover, the number of assembling processed processes can be reduced, thereby improving the productivity.